Contact: Sgt. Chris Benavides Date: 09-13-09 Release No. 09-129

NEWS RELEASE

SAPD Officer Involved Shooting

A preliminary investigation pertaining to an officer involved shooting reveals the following:

On September 13, 2009 at approximately 10:44 pm, Officers assigned to the Tactical Response Unit/Gang Unit were patrolling the 1400 block of Culebra when the officers observed a masked person armed with a handgun run into the Valero store located at 1419 Culebra. It was apparent to the officers that the suspect was in the process of committing a robbery. The officers immediately broadcasted their observations over the police radio and drove into the parking lot of the Valero. Both officers exited their vehicle and approached the store. Prior to the arrival of other officers, the robbery suspect exited the store. Officers immediately identified themselves and ordered the suspect to drop his weapon. The suspect did not drop his weapon but instead turned towards Officer Armendariz with his weapon pointing towards the officer. Officer Armendariz fired several rounds from his duty weapon striking the suspect. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. Officer Paul Armendariz is a 7 years veteran of the department.

The officer involved shooting team is currently conducting their investigation of the incident. As per department protocol, the officer will be placed on administrative duty.